

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: September 26, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:35 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Joanne Sanders, Chair
Paul Bateman
Vernon Brown
Becky Langsford
Lynn McWhirter
Lincoln Plowman

Absent Members

Jackie Nytes

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 482, 2006 - approves an increase of \$70,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Voter's Registration (County General Fund) to pay for expenses related to the November 2006 election

"Do Pass"

Vote 4-0

PROPOSAL NO. 483, 2006 - approves an increase of \$559,785 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Election Board (County General Fund) to pay for expenses related to the November 2006 election

"Do Pass"

Vote 6-0

Presentation of the new mapping engine - Shital Patel

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Administration and Finance Committee of the City-County Council met on Tuesday, August 22, 2006. Chair Joanne Sanders called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following members present: Vernon Brown, Lynn McWhirter, and Becky Langsford. Paul Bateman and Lincoln Plowman arrived shortly thereafter. Absent was Councillor Jackie Nytes.

PROPOSAL NO. 482, 2006 - approves an increase of \$70,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Voter's Registration (County General Fund) to pay for expenses related to the November 2006 election

John Riordan and Cindy Mowery from Voter Registration gave the presentation.

John Riordan said the proposal was requested to provide additional funding to carry out the remaining duties for the November 2006 General Election. He said the principal duty is printing, which accounts for \$65,000 of the request. Mr. Riordan said it includes printing ten-day runs (a copy goes to Voter Registration and each of the political parties), the challenge list, and the poll books for each precinct. Mr. Riordan said additional funds were included for temporary personnel that may be required.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Brown to send Proposal No. 482, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

Chair Sanders said she was glad the funds were found so the County could have a smooth election.

PROPOSAL NO. 483, 2006 - approves an increase of \$559,785 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Election Board (County General Fund) to pay for expenses related to the November 2006 election

[Clerk's note: Councillor Plowman arrived at 5:39 p.m.]

Chari Burke, Chief Deputy Marion County Clerk's Office, and Jennifer Handlon, Election Board Administrator, presented the proposal.

Ms. Burke indicated that the Council received a handout (See Exhibit A) outlining where the additional appropriations will be allocated. She said the Office of Finance and Management pointed out that sub object 39017 might need additional explanation. She said \$176,000 is being requested in the sub object. Additional service days from the vendor account for \$174,000 of the funds. Ms. Burke said the service days are for additional technicians to be on-hand in Marion County from now until a few days after Election Day to assist with the election process.

Ms. Burke said only 32 service days were left after the Primary Election in May 2006. She said the office realized 32 days would not be enough to get the office through November.

Chair Sanders asked if ES&S had made any offer to provide additional service days without a cost to Marion County considering the concerns they have caused. Ms. Burke answered in the negative, and said ES&S made an offer to allow Marion County to borrow days for the remaining contract from elections that will be held in 2007 and 2008. She said eventually, additional days would be needed and the office felt that this was the best time to make the request.

Chair Sanders said she has some concerns regarding the election cards being in the appropriate election machines on the morning of Election Day. She asked if there was a process in place to ensure the cards are in the correct machines. Ms. Burke said testing is conducted before the elections. She said part of the reason for so many service days is to have the appropriate number of technicians on-hand to make sure everything is done correctly. She stated that David Woo, supervisor at the Election Board Service Center, does the testing and hopefully will ensure that the proper cards are in the correct voting machine.

Chair Sanders asked if the Office of Finance and Management was comfortable with the reduction in the County General Fund. Ms. Kim Diller said Proposal Nos. 482 and 483 are both accounted for in Fund Balance projections for the 2007 budget. She said the Fund Balance would be \$540,000 for the end of 2007. Ms. Diller said the funds were accounted for in the second half of 2006 appropriations.

[Clerk's note: Councillor Bateman arrived at 5:44 p.m.]

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman to send Proposal No. 483, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Presentation of the new mapping engine - Shital Patel

Shital Patel and Chuck Carufel, Information Services Agency (ISA), gave the presentation and provided a handout (See Exhibit B on file in the Council Office).

Ms. Patel said they would discuss Geographic Information Services (GIS). Mr. Carufel said GIS is a division within ISA with a staff of nine full time employees. He said they supplement their work with a local GIS vendor. The vendor does applications development for GIS. Mr. Carufel said the services are provided to City and County employees.

Mr. Carufel said there are eight or ten web applications on the website, and all will be replaced next year. He said they maintain almost 300 data layers for City and County employees. The latest service is spatial integration, and the process is done through web services. The best example is when a County agency or City department connects to the web service to validate an address.

Mr. Carufel said studies show that over 80% of government operations have a spatial component. He said department managers and field employees would use the automated mapping engine (AME) for presentations to the public.

Mr. Carufel said AME runs on Internet Explorer at no cost. Currently, the system only works on the City-County network, and in the future the public will be able to benefit from it too. He said the process to make the maps and print them is simple and easy.

Mr. Carufel said AME is being developed in two phases, with phase one being complete. He said phase one produces cartographic quality maps. Phase two will allow map definitions to be saved. Once the definitions are saved, a map can be produced with updated data later. Mr. Carufel said phase two also has a subscription service where a map can be generated automatically, and the service will generate reports based on events that occur within a given area.

Mr. Carufel said although there are nearly 300 map layers such as parcels, streets, and water features, there are also target layers. He said target layers are permits and violations, capital improvement projects, polling places, and zoning. Other target layers are crime incidents, citizen requests and work management records; however, the integration for these three layers is not done yet.

Mr. Carufel gave a demonstration of the new mapping engine.

Councillor Plowman asked if the system would show the location of abandoned vehicles. Mr. Carufel said it would show the calls from the Mayor's Action Center that reported the vehicle. Councillor Plowman asked if that meant the vehicle was still at the location. Mr. Carufel said a status of the service could also be produced to determine if the case is closed or open.

Mr. Carufel said the reports are generated on the City-County server and not on the personal computer. He said the reports come back as a pdf file so they can be saved. Mr. Carufel said the integration with the Mayor's Action Center database and AME is not complete. Ms. Patel said the information would be input manually on a regular basis.

Councillor Brown asked if a report of addresses could be produced. Mr. Carufel answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Carufel said the permit integration is complete.

Councillor McWhirter asked if crime statistics could be produced and if the dates are in real time. Mr. Carufel answered in the affirmative and said the information is updated on a weekly basis. Ms. Patel said the crime statistics application is different from AME. Mr. Carufel said they would need permission from the owners of the information before it is published.

Chair Sanders asked if zoning information would be available. Mr. Carufel said the information is already available. Chair Sanders asked if petitions and variances were a part of the system. Mr. Carufel said that would be a policy decision for the Department of Metropolitan Development. He said petitions are maintained as a separate map layer.

Councillor Bateman asked if cases could be followed using the tracking number issued by the MAC. Mr. Carufel answered in the affirmative and said it would be cumbersome.

Councillor Plowman asked if the information would be available through the Internet and not only the Intranet. Mr. Carufel said that is a policy decision, and it is not known if the computer system could keep up with the demand that could be generated. He said the issues would be addressed in a few months after people begin using the system internally. Councillor Plowman said having access through the Internet would allow him to generate information at any time. Ms. Patel said they are working on an application that would allow the Council to remotely enter their government desktop from home and then access the system.

Chair Sanders asked if laptops could be used for the remote access. Ms. Patel answered in the affirmative. Chair Sanders asked if the migration was on schedule. Ms. Patel answered in the affirmative and said four departments have migrated.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Administration and Finance Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Sanders, Chair
Administration and Finance Committee

JMS/csp